

# THE WINTERIM TIMES

## Do aliens really exist?

### Four Honeybears recount internship at NASA

BY ASHLEY ZHU

Editor

"Yeah, they do. I don't have proof yet. They keep that stuff on lockdown... but yes," says Murray Hannon, junior.

This Winterim, four Honeybears interned with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), including Hannon. The group worked in Maryland at the Goddard Space Flight Station, the largest of ten such stations in the U.S.

Hannon interned with the NASA communications team, a department with approximately 65 employees. The department takes the science being done at NASA and makes it accessible and comprehensible for the rest of the world.

How did Hannon land her internship? "Mrs. Watlington emailed me at random asking if I wanted to work with NASA. I don't think she knew how

much I love space, so it was just complete luck."

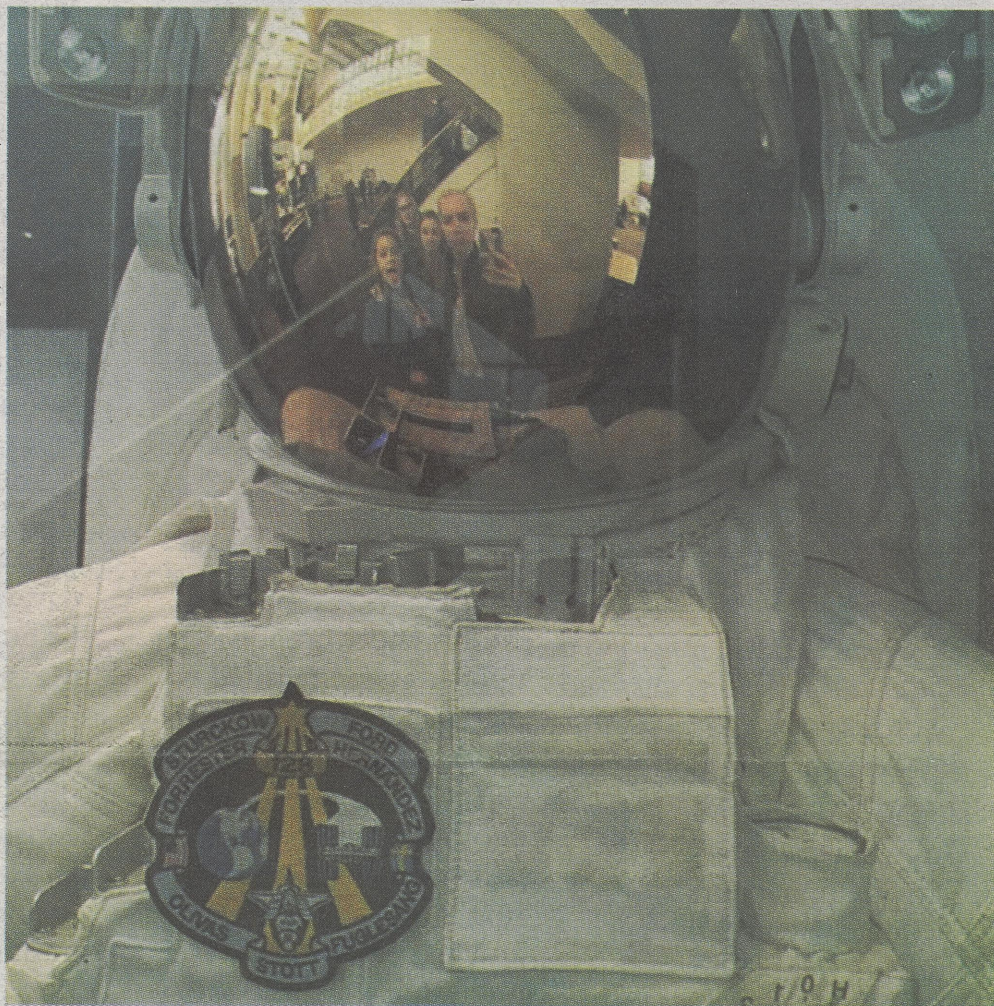
An average day in the life of Hannon was getting up at 9 am every morning and tracking the success of Goddard news stories, as well as other projects. She worked on everything from interviewing scientists, to assisting video shoots to taking pictures of visiting senators.

Along with Hannon, junior Claire Smith, and seniors Hannah Huth and Elizabeth Singleton interned at NASA. They shadowed engineers and helped them with their job.

"Hannah Huth and I have been working on a geo-mapping project, a process in which we overlay images taken from satellites onto Google Earth," Smith said.

For her part, Singleton worked on satellite missions. "I was especially excited to be working with the team that

(Continued on page 3)



**Ready for Lift-off:** Murray Hannon takes a selfie with fellow juniors Meredith Welborn, Olivia Stavely and Anna Grace Cole in the face of a space suit at the Air & Space Museum in Washington, D.C. Photo by Murray Hannon

## Delving deep in the waters of Bonaire



**Deep Dive:** Seniors Carly Henderson, Griffin Link, and Kelly Short go for a swim. Photo by Rob Harris

BY GRACIE HARRIS  
Editor

The scuba diving adventure in Bonaire was one of the new Winterim trips offered in 2016.

It was led by Rob Harris, a Professional Association of Diving Instructor (PADI) Course Director and Josh Poteete, a PADI Instructor.

Mrs. Lisa Keen and Ms. Jennifer Perry were the faculty chaperones.

Bonaire is an island in the Dutch Antilles, which are located 148 miles from Caracas, Venezuela. The island is known as the Diver's Paradise, and it is quite obvious why.

The reefs in Bonaire were destroyed in a hurricane

a few years back, yet the wildlife is thriving. Students saw exotic creatures such as frogfish, seahorses, octopus, midnight blue parrot fish, puffer fish and turtles.

"I thought the reefs would be more colorful but I didn't expect to see so many fish!" senior Laurel Jobe said.

For most of the students,  
(Continued on page 3)



Spain Trip's a Classic  
Page 2



Amy Grant Returns  
Page 6



Exchange Students Visit  
Page 7



## Classic fun in modern Spain



**Buen Provecho:** Seniors Gracie Pope and Maddie Gilmore learn how to cook Roman recipes at the Escuela Internacional de Cocina in Valladolid. Photo by Elizabeth Allen

**BY ASHLEY ZHU**  
Editor

Where can you find Latin teacher Jerard White passionately belting out 'Living On A Prayer'?

In Spain, of course!

Nineteen Harpeth Hall students went to Spain this Winterim, supervised by Spanish teacher Elizabeth Allen and Mr. White.

They traveled with a brand new immersion program called Language Immersion Trips Abroad, or LITA, that allows students to explore varying aspects of Spanish culture.

Senior Lucy Massey, also known as Lucia, said, "I think the name says a lot about the group - our LITA guide, Michela, explained that lita means a small treasured thing in Spanish... It's a small group of people who are passionate about what they do and care for the trips they design."

The program was tailor-made to fit Harpeth Hall students' goals of having a trip that looks at ancient Roman influences in Spain, and Spanish

culture more broadly. The upperclassmen visited places like the National Museum of Roman Art, the Burgos Cathedral, and even another all girl's school!

"It's everything from getting to go see the aqueducts and learn how they were built, to having a cooking class all focused around ancient Roman foods and ancient influence in music," Winterim Director Jacquie Watlington said.

Before going on the trip, the students were on-campus for a week researched Spain and its Roman influences.

History teachers Dr. Mary Ellen Pethel and Dr. Art Echerd came in and talked to them about public history, archives, and post-Roman Spanish history in preparation for going to the National Archives in Simancas.

Harpeth Hall students enjoyed some extraordinary cultural experiences in Spain. They visited a local dehesa, a type of farm, and tried jamon, a Spanish delicacy that is made of

free range pigs. After trying many different foods, they decided their favorite snack was the churros con chocolate, which is churros dipped in chocolate. They also watched people dancing the flamenco in Madrid!

Massey said, "The cultural differences that worried me were just concerns that Spaniards would be rude or critical of Americans. But among everyone we've met in these busy days, only one waitress was rude to one girl, and that on a busy Saturday night at a popular tapas spot."

The least fun part of the trip? "Being exhausted. You have to bring 100% every day, which is as it should be but still challenging," Massey said.

However, overall, the students had a wonderful time. Jacoway said, "It's considered a Classics trip, and I want to be a Classics major, so the fact that we'd be able to visit places where Rome actually occupied was pretty cool to me."

Massey said, "Our guide was Alvaro Galan, who was a Latin and Greek teacher in the nearby village and also spoke French. He and Mr. White and I had a conversation in a combination of English, Spanish, French, and Latin for about two and a half hours. My brain may have leaked out my ears."

Will the trip be offered again? Mrs. Jacquie Watlington, Winterim Director, said, "Like all of our trips, we will collect student evaluations, have a faculty debrief and evaluate how this trip may serve the needs of our students for future Winterim experiences."

Whether or not the trip will be offered again, the students certainly had a wonderful time in Spain.

## Bears down under

**BY MARGARET COOK**  
Editor

Every year in January, Tamworth, Australia doubles in size for ten days for the Tamworth Country Music Festival. This year, four Honeybears, juniors Sterling Akers, Emmie Wade, Georgia Weathers, and Amber Steigelfest, interned in Tamworth to help produce the festival.

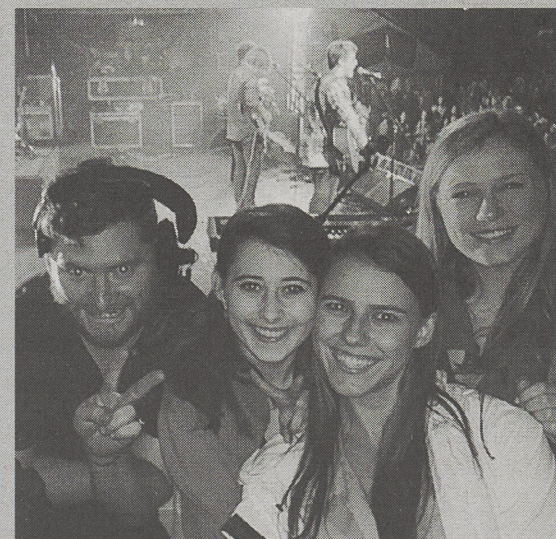
The festival, the second largest country music festival in the world after Nashville's CMA Fest, featured three-hundred acts on the main stage and even more on the streets. There were twenty-eight hundred events and it ran from Jan. 15 to 24. Approximately 100,000 people attend annually. According to Wade, there were already campers set up days before the festival.

"It's unlike any festival I've been to before because it happens right in the middle of Tamworth's busiest streets and parks," said Weathers. "And almost all of it is free."

"There are some differences," said Wade, "but Australian country music is influenced majorly by Nashville's." However, "there are over 700 artists and none of them are the same as in Nashville," said Akers.

Before the festival the girls did a lot of planning. "We've been helping prep by making media cards, fans to hand out, signs and more," said Akers. Once the festival started, the interns got an opportunity to interact with the crowd and musicians.

This is the first year Harpeth Hall has had girls in Tamworth for the festival, though these girls hope it won't be the last.



**Ready to Rock:** Juniors Georgia Weathers, Amber Steigelfest, Sterling Akers and Emmie Wade prepare for a concert backstage. Photo courtesy of honeybearsandkoalabears Instagram account.



## Creative writing on the Emerald Isle

BY BLUE BYRD  
Editor

When one mentions Ireland, visions of leprechauns and vast green farmlands may come to mind. When juniors Marimac McRae and Kelsey Kay Herring think of Ireland, they think creative writing.

For Winterim 2016, both students traveled to Dublin interning with a fiction writer, Dave Rudden.

Mr. Rudden is the author of a fantasy trilogy entitled "The Borrowed Dark." The book's film rights have already been sold despite the fact that the series has not yet been published. This has some calling Rudden the next J.K. Rowling.

Each day, Rudden joyfully guided McRae and Herring through the journey that is



**Top of the Morning:** McRae and Herring enjoy hot chocolate on a tour bus in Dublin, Ireland. Photo courtesy of Kelsey Kay Herring

creative writing.

When they weren't writing, McRae and Herring were navigating the unfamiliar terrain of Dublin.

McRae and Herring discovered ways to remember their favored routes, like how they came to recognize

O'Connell Street as "the burrito walk."

The street got its name after a local man called out to Herring on the street while she was enjoying a burrito.

According to McRae, the man said, "hey, whatcha got there?" in a suggestive tone. "I don't know how you manage to make something like that suggestive."

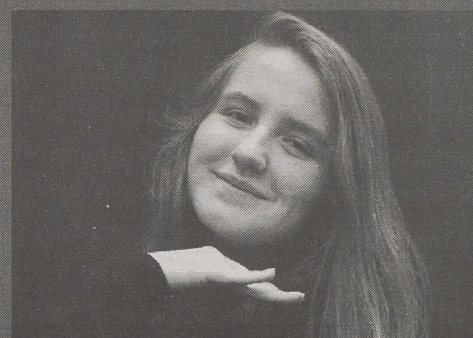
After a long day of getting lost on the winding streets of Dublin, McRae and Herring enjoyed attending hurling matches and watching movies in mini movie theaters. After three weeks, they were practically natives.

From being asked for directions to navigating the streets of Dublin they can easily be mistaken for a gaelic spouting Irish woman.

## THE WINTERIM TIMES



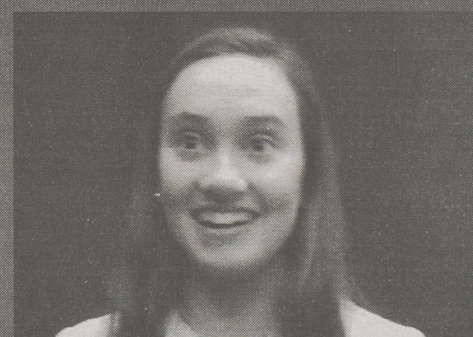
RACHEL BROWN, EDITOR



BLUE BYRD, EDITOR



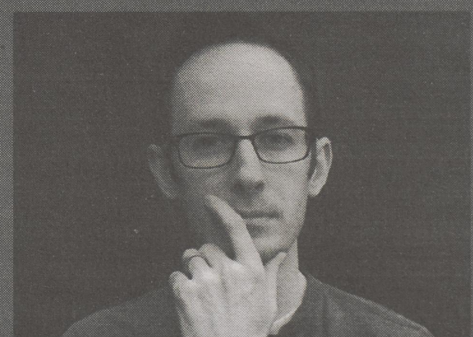
MARGARET COOK, EDITOR



GRACIE HARRIS, EDITOR



ASHLEY ZHU, EDITOR



DR. WILSMAN, ADVISER

## Do Aliens Exist? (continued from page 1)

is building/planning for the launch of the new GOES-R satellite, which is the satellite that allows us to predict weather through providing radar maps," Singleton said.

The new James Webb satellite was a highlight of the trip. "People are calling it the next Hubble. It isn't assembled all the way, but just the individual pieces were bigger than my car," Hannon said. The telescope is currently the main project at NASA, which will be a space-based observatory that will extend along the Hubble Telescope.

"We got to visit the massive clean-rooms where it's being constructed," Smith said. Set

to launch in 2018, the NASA website said the telescope will be able to "study every phase in the history of our Universe, ranging from the first luminous glows after the Big Bang, to the formation of solar systems capable of supporting life on planets like Earth, to the evolution of our own Solar System."

The interns learned a lot. "Fun fact..." Hannon said. "2015 was the warmest year on modern record. NASA first began to track climate change in 1988 because that was the warmest year on record. Now, '88 doesn't even fall into the top 20."

Singleton was also sur-

prised by the condition of the NASA facilities. "I expected everything to be new and cutting-edge, but in reality, the buildings show evidence of budget cuts and look somewhat old and run-down. It is sad, really, because people have lost interest in space travel/exploration, and as a result there is less funding," Singleton said.

"What has surprised me most about NASA is the wide range of careers there," Smith said.

Whether the interns were checking weather or overlaying satellite images, it's suffice to say that it was out of this world.

## Delving Deep (continued from page 1)

getting used to diving underwater was difficult and maybe a little nerve-racking. It makes sense, as breathing with an oxygen tank is not exactly the everyday norm.

"It is a bit surreal knowing that you must be in control of every small movement your body makes," senior Sloane

Fuller said.

Only one of the students on the trip had been diving before and it was an incredible time for all.

"I expected to be in awe and I definitely was," senior Caroline Kohl said. "Looking up the column of water to see the surface is nothing like

what I expected. Honestly nothing can describe that feeling."

"It was beyond my expectations. It is hard to put Google images in your brain as to what you are going to see. Experiencing the creatures in person is beyond amazing," senior Kelly Short said.



**Seniors  
Sarah  
Perlin &  
Carrie  
Brake,  
NYC**

Photo found on  
carriebinnyc.  
wordpress.com



New York City (19)

Washington, D.C. (17)

Nashville, TN

Harpeth Hall (210)

Interns (101)

Independent Study (4)

Various Cities

Atlanta, GA (1)

Houston, TX (1)

Bradford, VA (1)

Chicago, IL (1)

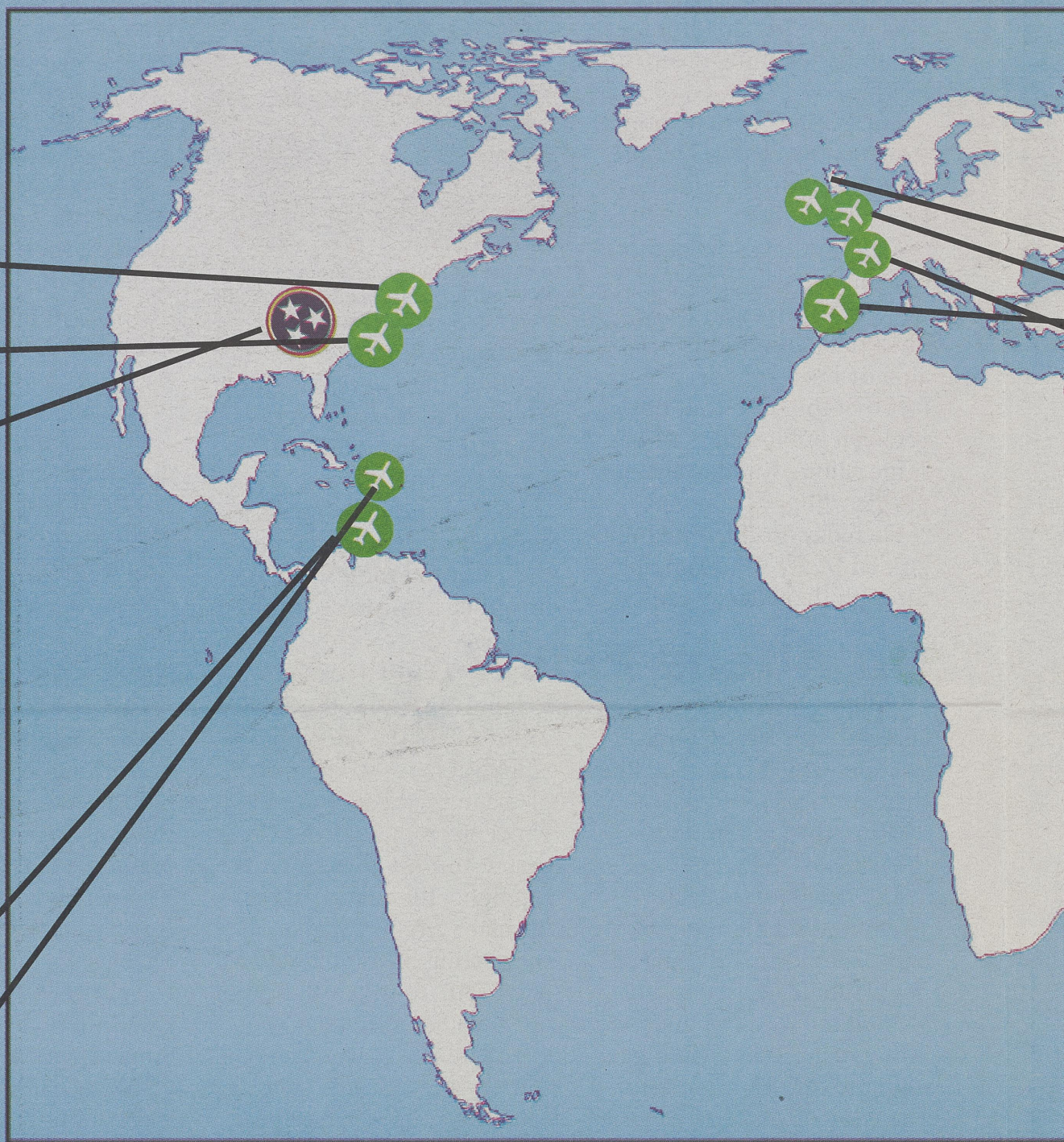
Dayton, OH (1)

Los Angeles, CA (2)

Bonaire (19)

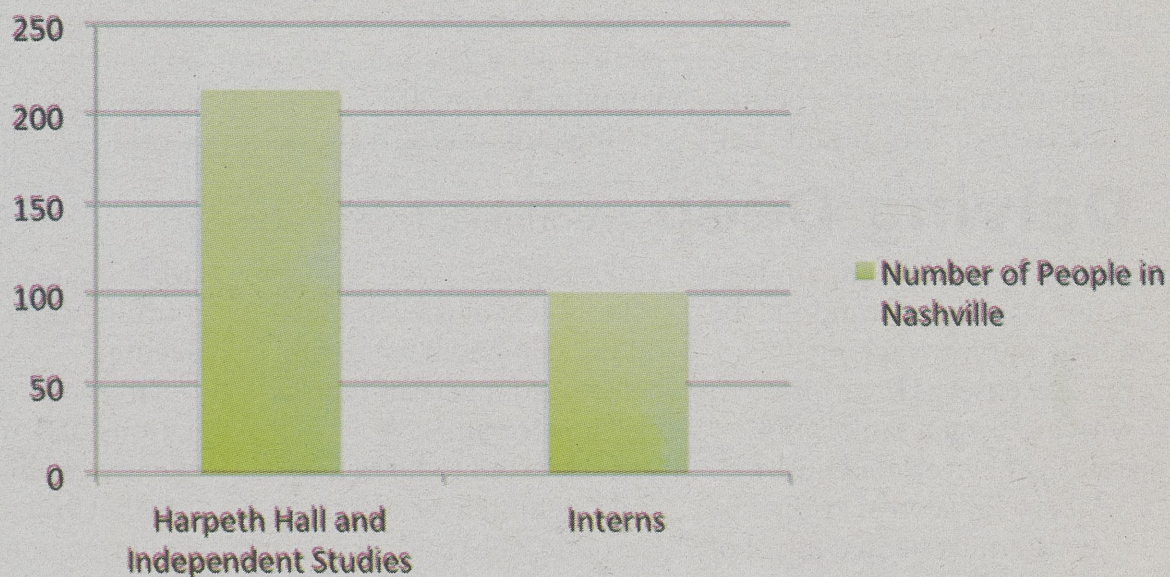
Haiti (6)

# WHERE ARE



**Senior Graham Vandiver, Haiti**

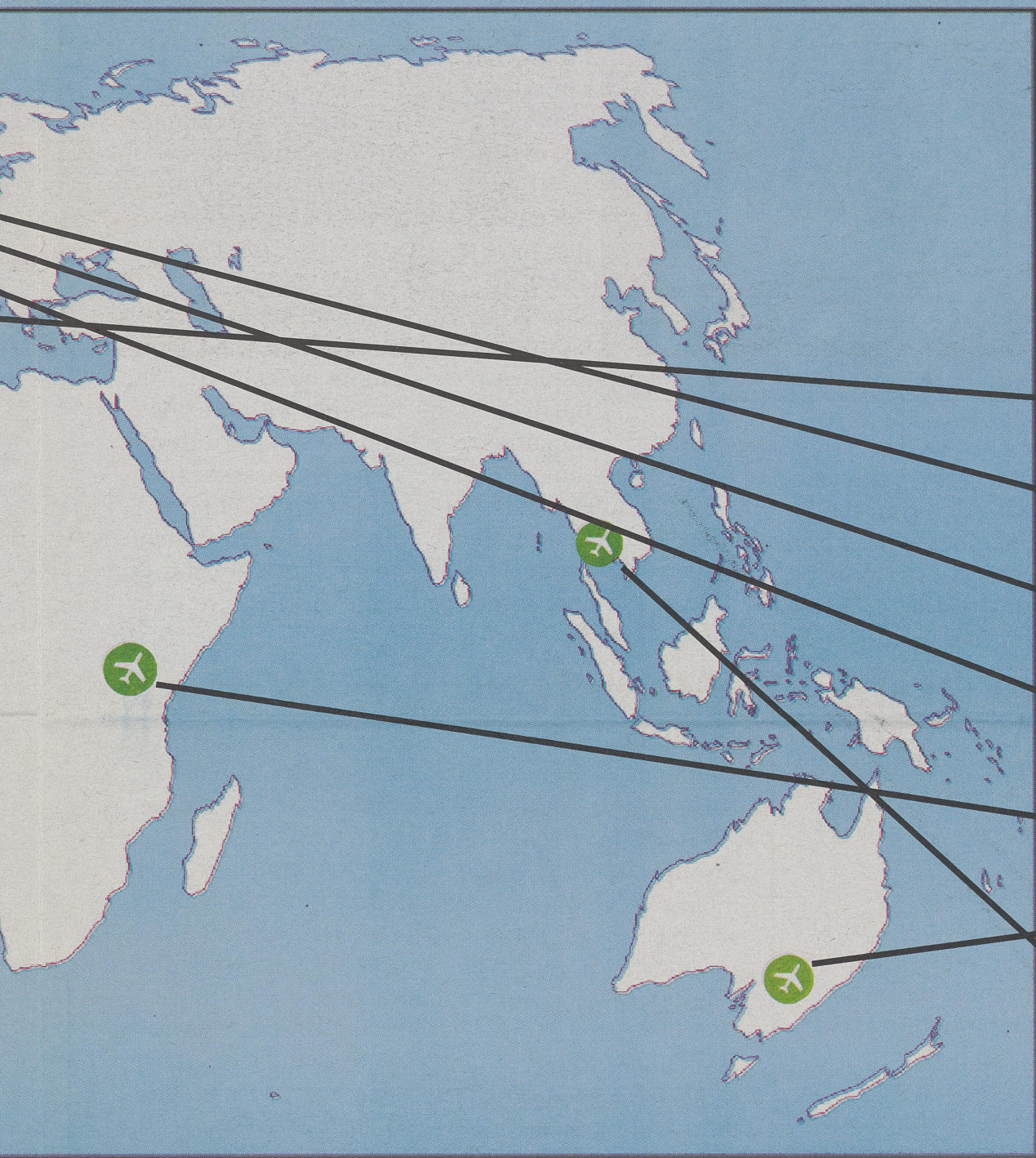
## Number of People in Nashville



New York City



# RE Û NOW?



**Senior Eliza Trost, Spain**  
Photo found on harpett-hall-school-in-spain.tumblr.com/

Spain (19)

Ireland (2)

London (1)

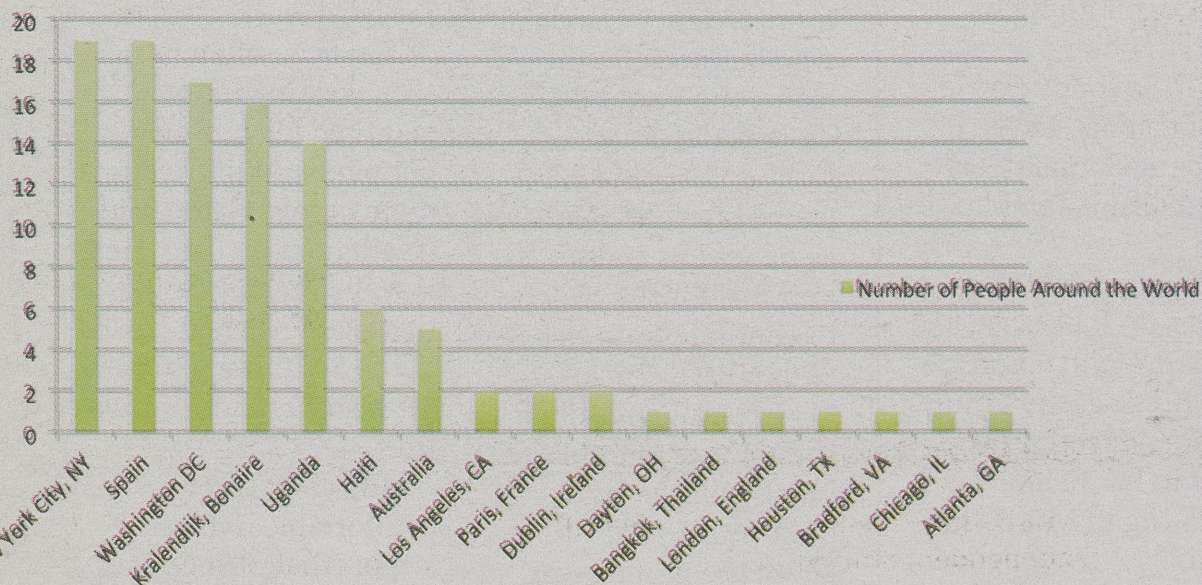
France (2)

Uganda (13)

Australia (5)

Thailand (1)

**Number of People Around the World**



**Senior Anne Rajbundit, Thailand**



## Celebrity, assistant, alum: Amy Grant is back

BY RACHEL BROWN  
Editor

Wait what? Who is assistant teaching the Songwriting for Guitar class? That's right! The Harpeth Hall alumna whose name adorns a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame: Amy Grant!

Mrs. Grant, who graduated from Harpeth Hall in 1978, has not only won six grammys, but she has won 22 Gospel Music Association (GMA) Dove Awards. To this day, Grant is one of the best selling Christian artists in history.

Mrs. Grant has returned to assist English teacher Joe Croker in teaching the Singer/Songwriter Winterim

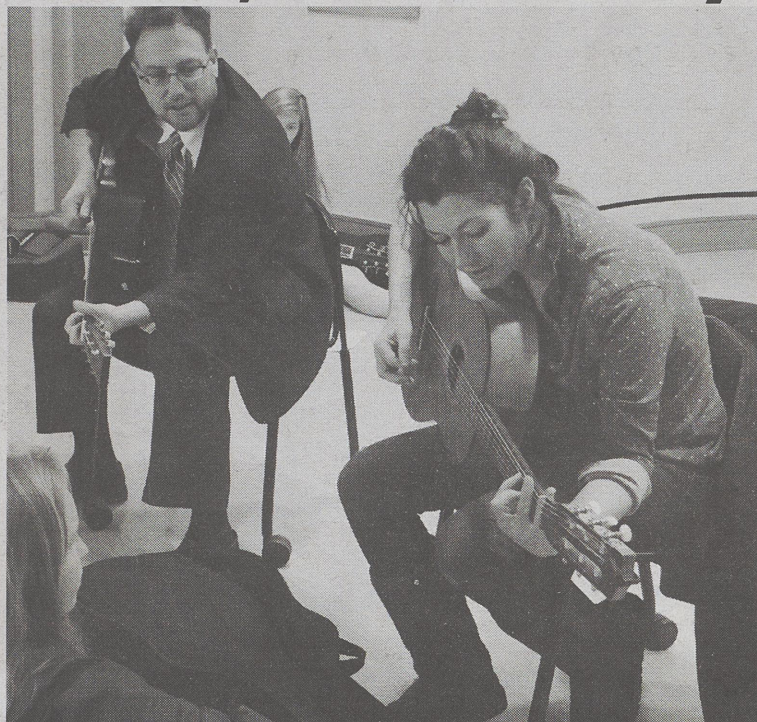
class that changed her life forever when she was a Harpeth Hall student.

"She has a wealth of ideas," Mr. Croker said.

"The other thing that really excited me, and excites me every-day working with her, she is a true artist. She

thinks in an associative way...It is just so liberating to work with her... She is the real thing."

For Grant, this is



**Strumming with Amy Grant:** With Mr. Croker by her side, Mrs. Grant teaches sophomore Margaret Rogers a chord. Photo by Rachel Brown.

not her first experience with Winterim; she remembers it well from her time as a student at Harpeth Hall. "It gives your brain a rest, and

is a chance to discover something that you might not want to commit to for a whole semester or year," Mrs. Grant said.

While the buildings have changed since Mrs. Grant was a student, much remains the same. "There

is just a different kind of ease in the environment here at Harpeth Hall, and in the environment here...there is a real in-

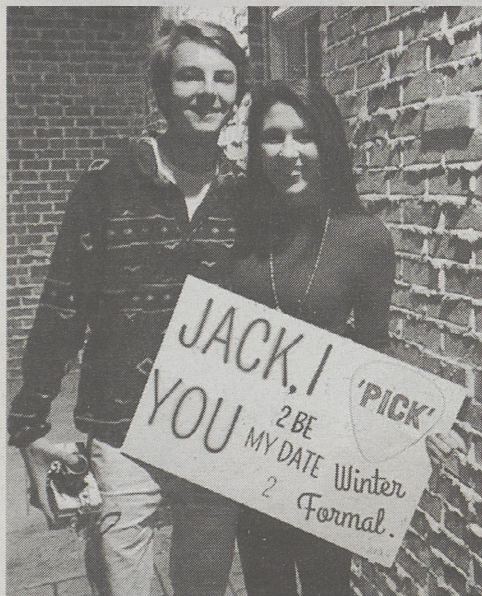
itation to be yourself," Mrs. Grant said.

She has enjoyed her experience collaborating with Mr. Croker and is very appreciative of him working out a way for her to be involved. "He is really great at keeping the energy ball rolling."

Many students are enthusiastic about the opportunity to work with Mrs. Grant and Mr. Croker.

"I love her calming atmosphere," said sophomore Lizzy Blade. "She just goes with the flow and we still learn things. I love her class for the same reasons. It's just a stress free environment and we have fun at the same time."

## Winter formal fever returns



**Guitar Guru:** Junior Ava Boney asks MBA junior Jack Renieke to Winter Formal. Photo courtesy of Ava Boney.

BY ASHLEY ZHU  
Editor

Winter Formal. Those two words wring out feelings of eager anticipation, flustered nervousness and intense excitement.

Flurries of questions arise, like "Who will I go with?" or "What will I wear?" Visits to spas and boutiques increase in frequency, all in preparation for

the much anticipated event on Saturday, Feb. 6, from 8-10 pm in Morrison Gym.

The biggest difference this year from all the previous Winter Formals is that there will be no DJ. All the songs will be selected by the seniors, but all students can suggest songs.

Along with the Student Council, the Art Club has also been making giant snowflakes and garland to decorate the dance.

Many students are excited for the upcoming event, though some students also feel nervous about attending.

"I might be going, but it's kinda stressful. Boys suck," sophomore

Neha Ramanna said. Sentiments like these are why many students elect to go without a date.

While it can be nerve-racking to ask a date to the dance, many students are quick to point out that it isn't so bad.

"Whoever it is, they'll be flattered you asked them," sophomore Hailey Fox said.

For the seniors, the dance is nothing to worry about.

"To anyone stressing about a date, DON'T!" Student Council President Claire Temple said.

"If you prefer to go alone, do it because it is YOUR night! Choose a fun dress, eat a yummy dinner, introduce your date to Dr. Balmer, and cut a rug in Morrison Gym!"

## Warriors on Water

BY GRACIE HARRIS  
Editor

Is crew for you? With practices Monday through Saturday, it is intense, yet students continue to gravitate toward the sport.

Last year, Harpeth Hall partnered with Nashville Rowing (NRC) to provide a more legitimate team, better practices and superior equipment.

According to sophomore Delaney Carrigan who has been on the team for a year, NRC designs the practices for the Harpeth Hall team. After the scholastic season ends, it is optional for the athletes to continue training with NRC.

Most students, like sophomore Marguerite Trost, join the team because they heard about the program in Middle School. It is easy

to join, all you have to do is show up to a practice. No experience is required.

In the regular academic week, the team practices from 4:00-6:30. They also had scheduled practices over Winter Break. Although it was optional and strongly suggested, most attended these practices.

To Trost and sophomore Lilla Caton, it is definitely worth all of the hard work.

Trost can often be seen walking in with giant red blisters on her palms. What keeps them going? Caton said, "Going out on the water is really the only thing that matters when you're there. So it's stepping away from school. Stress free."

"I wouldn't feel comfortable if it wasn't a sport that pushed me," Trost said.



## Welcome to Harpeth Hall! Getting to know exchange students

BY RACHEL BROWN

Editor

During Winterim, Harpeth Hall welcomed two foreign exchange students: Julia Moncayo Van Hase from Mendoza, Argentina and Caitlin Maiorana, from New Zealand.

While Moncayo van Hase is staying with sophomores Bradford Harrington and Camille Patton until Feb. 12, Maiorana stayed with Carmon Proctor and Emily Vandewater and left after Winterim.

Both students have had adventures around town, trying local restaurants and checking out the sights.

"We went to the Bluebird Cafe and it was a really cool experience," Maiorana said. "It was weird when the food came out with no cutlery, and I am used to using a knife and fork." She also said that she texted her friends at the Woodford House about Twelve South's new cupcake ATM. Maiorana said that she really enjoyed all the chicken fingers Nashville provides, and even tried Root Beer for the first time.

Moncayo van Hase attends a co-ed school in Buenos Aires called the Goethe Schule. Referring to the idea of an all girls school Moncayo van Hase immediately

said "I think it is good sometimes, but in the long term I would NEVER choose an all girl's school because I have a lot of friends that are boys, and I can go to them when my girl friends are gone. You have a direct way to know them, but here you have to have connections to know boys or meet someone."

Maiorana attends an all-girls boarding school called Woodford House. At times, the schools can feel quite different. "All the drama that happens in the boarding house stays in the boarding house, and that is quite nice, but here I think all the drama floats around," Maiorana said.

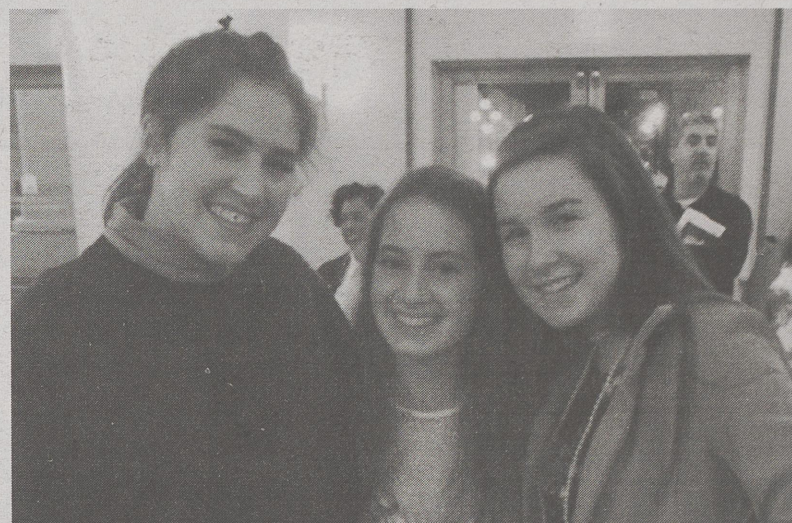
Both Maiorana and Moncayo van Hase have greatly enjoyed Winterim.

"It is nice to be taking a break from normal classes to do really different classes," Maiorana said.

Maiorana was surprised by the size of Nashville because she comes from "a small village." She had never seen a squirrel

before her trip here. She loves how friendly everyone in Nashville is.

"I am really glad that I came on an exchange program that is part of a school because this is an experience I won't get anywhere else," Maiorana said.



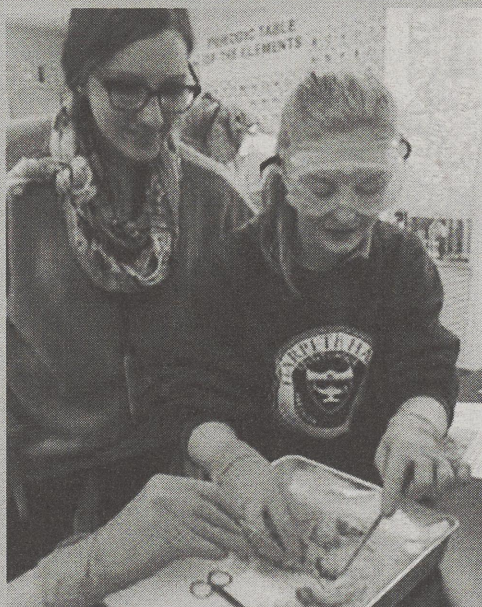
**Be Our Guest:**

(Top) Sophomores Camille Patton, Moncayo van Hase and Bradford Harrington stop for a picture.

(Bottom) Maiorana poses with host, sophomore Emily Vandewater. Top photo courtesy of Julia Moncayo van Hase. Bottom photo courtesy of Emily Vandewater.

**Brainiac:**

Sophomore Annie Cook dissects a sheep brain with the help of Ms. Watt. Students did this the first week of class. Photo by Kathy Billings.



## Bears got brains Neuroscience at HH

BY MARGARET COOK

Editor

Usually, it takes years for a class to become a favorite at Harpeth Hall, but this year a new class was a top choice during Winterim: Exploring the Brain: How Neuroscience Can Explain our Thoughts and Behavior.

Chemistry teachers Ms. Erin Watt and Ms. Kathy Billings taught the class.

"I believe that it is important to understand the underlying mechanisms behind human behaviors such that we can have awareness and compassion for all types of human behavior," Ms. Watt said.

Gracie Harris, sophomore, believes the success of the class can be partially attributed to the popularity of the TV show, "Grey's Anatomy."

"I think it was so popular this year because it's a class that sounds fun and you learn a lot," Harris said. Ms. Watt agreed. "I think that neuroscience is a topic that most people find fascinating." "We all want to learn more about why we do what we do."

According to freshman student Zenab Mchaourab, students in the class start off by discussing neuroanatomy in the first week, and later learn more about how the brain deals with disease.

Students attracted to a medical career were particularly interested in the class "I actually chose this class because I'm interested in being a doctor and I have always been fascinated with the brain," sophomore Emma Mathews said.

Given the popularity of the course, Harpeth Hall may see more like it in coming Winterims.

## Dr. Jack's Kennedy cult

BY BLUE BYRD

Editor

Why is the Kennedy class so popular? Do you just learn about that hot president? Are Patrick Schwarzenegger and T Swifts' ex really related to the Kennedys? Someone mentioned something about Patrick Dempsey? Why does this class have such a cult following?

Family trees, conspiracy theories, and the Kennedy curse are a few of the many topics discussed. The class is almost like a gossip session where history teacher Dr. Jack Henderson is the all-knowing, having read over 100 books on the subject matter.

Some of the stories told will seem too outrageous to be true. The vibe of the class is similar to that of watching reality television without the guilt of truly wondering if Kim K will find her diamond earring she lost in the ocean.

If none of that appeals, consider the connections the family had, and still has, in national and international politics.

Beyonce may be in the Illuminati, but by the end of this class you will be in the Kennedy Cult, so who's the real winner here?





9:41 AM



# Instagram



libertyandjusticeforall  
The White House



libertyandjusticeforall HH ready to move into our new home 🇺🇸



honeybearsandkoalabears

1w

MUSIC City has met the Country Music Capital with four interns from Nashville making their home in Tamworth for three weeks.



honeybearsandkoalabears catch ya girls in today's issue of 🇺🇸 The Leader 🇺🇸!! publicity is a major 🗝️



no.spain\_no.gain  
Montánchez, Extremadura, Spain



no.spain\_no.gain The Last Supper in Montánchez



alix\_albright  
Sacré-Cœur, Paris



alix\_albright Overlooking one of the most beautiful cities in the world



fresh\_bears\_of\_bonaire  
Small Wall Reef



fresh\_bears\_of\_bonaire We're on a boat... 🚤



clairesmith  
Lincoln Memorial

2d



clairesmith Running #squad takes DC 🏃🏻💪



lc\_harrell  
Texas Children's Hospital



lc\_harrell "It's a beautiful day to save lives" (in heart surgery) ❤️👩‍⚕️



mar\_mac  
Moneygall Hurling Field

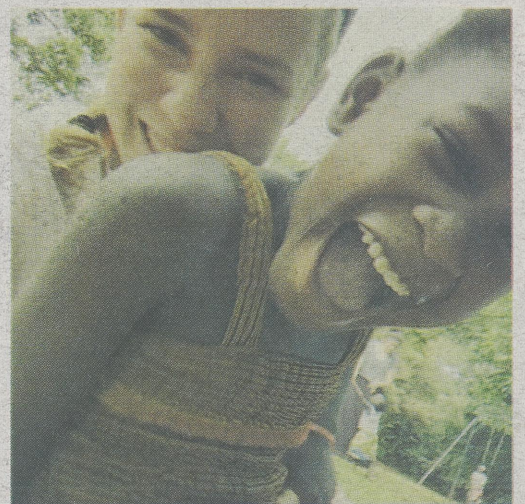


mar\_mac\_ I think we would be a great hurling team 🏈



annaclarkeharrison  
The James Place - HEAL Ministries

1d



annaclarkeharrison All smiles from Jinja 🙌  
#healministries

